

IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US)

PCT/NL2005/000021 14 January 2005 16 January 2004  
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EXAMINING THE INTERIOR MATERIAL OF AN OBJECT, SUCH AS A PIPELINE  
OR A HUMAN BODY FROM A SURFACE OF THE OBJECT USING ULTRASOUND  
TITLE OF INVENTION

Niels PORTZGEN Andries GISOLF  
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/US

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Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION: DO/US

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR  
BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 C.F.R. 1.97(b))

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CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10\*

(Express Mail label number is **mandatory**.)  
(Express Mail certification is **optional**.)

I hereby certify that this Completion of Filing Requirements and the papers indicated as being transmitted therewith is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on this date May 10, 2007, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number EV927569254US, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Geraldine Marti

*(Type or print name of person mailing paper)*

*[Signature]*  
Signature of person mailing paper

**WARNING:** Certificate of mailing (first class) or facsimile transmission procedures of 37 C.F.R. 1.8 cannot be used to obtain a date of mailing or transmission for this correspondence.

**\*WARNING:** Each paper or fee filed by "Express Mail" must have the number of the "Express Mail" mailing label placed thereon prior to mailing. 37 C.F.R. 1.10(b).

"Since the filing of correspondence under § 1.10 without the Express Mail mailing label thereon is an oversight that can be avoided by the exercise of reasonable care, requests for waiver of this requirement will not be granted on petition." Notice of Oct. 24, 1996, 60 Fed. Reg. 56,439, at 56,442.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. 1.98(b):

- (1) *Each U.S. patent listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by inventor, patent number, and issue date.*
- (2) *Each U.S. patent application published listed in an information disclosure statement shall be identified by applicant, patent application publication number, and publication date.*
- (3) *Each U.S. application listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by the inventor, application number, and filing date.*
- (4) *Each foreign patent or published foreign patent application listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by the country or patent office which issued the patent or published the application, an appropriate document number, and the publication date indicated on the patent or published application.*
- (5) *Each publication listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by publisher, author (if any), title, relevant pages of the publication, date, and place of publication.*

WARNING: *No extension of time can be had under 37 C.F.R. § 1.36 (a) or (b) for filing an IDS. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(f).*

NOTE: *The "filing date of a national application" under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) has two possible meanings. Where the filing is a direct one to the United States Patent & Trademark office, the filing is defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) as "the date on which: (1) A specification containing a description pursuant to § 1.71 and at least one claim pursuant to § 1.75; and (2) any drawing required by § 1.81(a), are filed in the Patent and Trademark Office in the name of the actual inventor or inventors as required by § 1.41." 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(1). On the other hand, an international application that enters the national stage occurs when the applicant has filed the documents and fees required by 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) within the periods set forth in § 1.494 or § 1.495. 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) requires the filing of the following: (1) the national fee; (2) a copy of the international application, unless already sent by the International Bureau, and an English translation if filed in another language; (3) amendments under PCT Article 19, with a translation into English if made in another language; (4) an oath or declaration; and (5) a translation into English of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report, if such annexes were made in another language. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(2).*

## IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b).

NOTE: *"No certification or fee is due when the filing is made within the above time period. It is advisable to ensure that no Office action has been mailed if the disclosure statement is delayed until after three months from filing."*

NOTE: *"An information disclosure statement will be considered to have been filed on the day it was received in the Office, or on an earlier date of a mailing if accompanied by a properly executed certificate of mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8, or Express Mail certificate under 37 C.F.R. 1.10. An office action is mailed on the date indicated in the Office action." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).*

NOTE: *"The term 'national application' includes continuing applications (continuations, divisions, continuations-in-part) so three-months will be measured from the actual filing date of an application as opposed [sic] to the effective date of a continuing application." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).*

**NOTE:** "An action on the merits means an action which treats the patentability of the claims in an application, as opposed to only formal or procedural requirements. An action on the merits would, for example, contain a rejection or indication of allowability of a claim or claims rather than just a restriction requirements (37 C.F.R. 1.142) or just a requirement for additional fees to have a claim considered (37 C.F.R. 1.16(d)). Thus, if an application was filed on Jan. 1 and the first Office action on the merits was not mailed until six months later on July 1, the examiner would be required to consider any proper information disclosure statement filed prior to July 1." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

**WARNING:** "A petition for suspension of action to allow applicant time to submit an information disclosure statement will be denied as failing to present good and sufficient reasons, since 37 C.F.R. 1.97 provides adequate recourse for the timely submission of prior art for consideration by the examiner." Notice of July 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63). But see § 103(b) and (c), limited suspension of action in a continued prosecution application (CPA) filed under § 1.53(d) and in a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114.

If a fee is required, please charge deposit account 12-0425.

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**SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William R. Evans, 25858, (212) 708-1930  
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**Practitioner's Docket No.U 016407-4**

**IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US)**

PCT/NL2005/000021	14 January 2005	16 January 2004
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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EXAMINING THE INTERIOR MATERIAL OF AN OBJECT, SUCH AS A PIPELINE OR A HUMAN BODY FROM A SURFACE OF THE OBJECT USING ULTRASOUND		
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**ATTENTION: DO/US**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

We draw the attention of the Examiner to the attached English-language version of an Action or International-type Search Report from a foreign office in respect of counterpart PCT Application No. NL2005/000021 that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office. The Action or Search Report makes consideration of any non-English art required. MPEP 609.

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(Express Mail label number is **mandatory**).  
(Express Mail certification is **optional**.)

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**Geraldine Marti**

*(type or print name of person mailing paper)*

*(Signature of person mailing paper)*

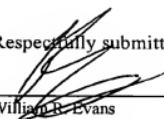
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Form PTO-1449 is also attached with reference copies (first page only for U.S. patent publications).

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William R. Evans  
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FORM PTO-1449	U. S DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  (Use several sheets if necessary)		U 016407-4		10/586,290
		APPLICANT		
		Niels PORTZGEN, et al		
		FILING DATE		GROUP
		July 13, 2006		

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	REFERENCE DESIGNATION	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AD				
	AB				
	AC				
	AD				
	AE				
	AF				
	AG				
	AH				
	AI				
	AJ				
	AK				

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
/J.S./	AL	0 829 714	03/1998	EP		
	AM					
	AN					
	AO					
	AP					

## OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Dates, Etc.)

/J.S./	AR	Langenborg, K.J., et al. "Application of modeling techniques for ultrasonic austenitic weld inspection." NDT & E INTERNATIONAL (2000) Vol. 33, No. 7, pp 465-480
/J.S./	AS	Javanmard, M., et al. "Inverse Problem Approach to Ultrasound Imaging." Systems, Man and Cybernetics (1995) Intelligent Systems for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century, IEEE Int'l Conference on Vancouver, BC, Canada pp 247-251
/J.S./	AT	Portzgen, N., et al. "Advances in Imaging of NDT Results." Proceedings of the 16 <sup>th</sup> World Conference on NDT, WCNDT (2004) Montreal, Canada [XP002311012]

EXAMINER	/Jacques Saint Surin/	DATE CONSIDERED	08/27/09
EXAMINER:	Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.		